

Appendix 11.0-A

Public Notice



**US Army Corps
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New England District

696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

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In Reply Refer To: Brian E. Valiton

: Brian.E.Valiton@usace.army.mil

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS **ON WIND FARM PROJECT EIS**

The New England District, Corps of Engineers, will hold public scoping meetings in Boston (March 6) and on Cape Cod (March 7) on an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being prepared in response to an application from Cape Wind Associates, LLC for a Section 10/404 Individual Permit. The application is for the installation and operation of 170 offshore Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) in federal waters off the coast of Massachusetts on Horseshoe Shoals in Nantucket Sound, with the transmission lines going through Massachusetts state waters. The scoping meetings are for the purpose of having interested agencies and the public provide input on defining the issues that will be evaluated in the EIS. The applicant's stated purpose of the project is to generate up to 420 MW of renewable energy that will be distributed to the New England regional power grid, including Cape Cod and the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. The power will be transmitted to shore via a submarine cable system consisting of two 115kV lines to a landfall site in Yarmouth, Massachusetts. The submarine cable system will then interconnect with an underground overland cable system, where it will interconnect with an existing NSTAR 115kV electric transmission line for distribution.

The proposed wind turbine array would occupy approximately 28 square miles in an area of Nantucket Sound known as Horseshoe Shoals between Nantucket Island and the Cape Cod mainland. The northernmost turbines would be approximately 4.1 miles from the nearest land mass (Point Gammon), the southeastern most turbines would be approximately 11 miles from Nantucket, and the westernmost turbines will be approximately 5.5 miles from Martha's Vineyard. The estimated construction start date for the proposed project is 2004, with commercial operation starting in 2005.

Alternatives to be addressed in the EIS will include: the no action alternative; alternative wind park locations, including offshore vs. upland; submarine cable route alternatives; alternative landfall and overland cable route locations, and alternative connections to an NSTAR transmission line.

Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS will include impacts associated with construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the wind turbines on the following resources: recreational and commercial boating and fishing activities, endangered marine mammals and reptiles, birds, aviation, benthic

habitat, aesthetics, cultural resources, radio and television frequencies, ocean currents, and land resources.

The public scoping meetings will be held on **Wednesday, March 6, 2002 starting at 1:30 pm (registration to begin at noon) at the JFK Federal Building, 55 New Sudbury St., Conference Room C, Boston, Massachusetts**, and on **Thursday, March 7, 2002 starting at 6:30 pm (registration to begin at 5:30 pm) at the Mattacheese Middle School, 400 Higgins Crowell Rd., West Yarmouth, Massachusetts**. All interested Federal, State and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, interested private and public organizations, and individuals are invited to attend these scoping meetings.

The Draft EIS is anticipated to be available for public review in the summer of 2003.

If there are any additional questions, please contact Mr. Brian Valiton of my staff at 978-318-8166 or at our toll free # 1-800-362-4367 if calling from within Massachusetts.

**Karen Kirk Adams
Chief, Permits & Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division**